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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/719,559	03/02/2001	Reinhard Plaschka	JEK/PILASCHKA	3460
7590		07/14/2005	EXAMINER	
Bacon & Thomas		FERGUSON, LAWRENCE D		
4th Floor		ART UNIT		
625 Slaters Lane		PAPER NUMBER		
Alexandria, VA 23124-1176		1774		

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/719,559

Applicant(s)

PLASCHKA ET AL.

Examiner

Lawrence D. Ferguson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 May 2005.
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 18, 19, 21-34 and 46 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 18, 19, 21-34 and 46 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This action is in response to the amendment mailed October 25, 2004.

Claim 46 was amended rendering claims 18-19, 21-34 and 46 pending.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103(a)

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 18-19, 21-23, 25, 27-29 and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chiang et al. (U.S. 5,380,695) in view of WO 2004/072378 (WO378).

Chiang discloses an ID card having a security pattern (column 4, lines 15-35) with a paper support that can be plastic (column 4, lines 45-62) having a polymeric security layer comprising acrylate material (column 5, lines 5-15 and column 6, lines 7-15) which protects the paper layer. Chiang further discloses the visible colored pattern or design can be fluorescent pigment that becomes visible when examined under ultra violet light or machine-readable pattern (column 8, lines 1-10). The printed indicia can be applied onto the polymeric layer using printing ink (column 6, lines 57-62). Chiang discloses

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laminating the image surface of the print with a plastic overlay (column 5, lines 18-25) which is interpreted as an outer lacquer layer. Chiang does not explicitly disclose a coating weight as in instant claim 19. However, such coating weight is a property which can be easily determined by one of ordinary skill in the art. With regard to the limitation of the coating weight, absent a showing of unexpected results, it is obvious to modify the conditions of a composition because they are merely the result of routine experimentation. The experimental modification of prior art in order to optimize operation conditions (e.g. coating weight) fails to render claims patentable in the absence of unexpected results. The coating weight is optimizable as it directly affects the durability and flexibility of the security paper. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to make the security paper with the limitations of the coating weight since it has been held that discovering an optimum value of a result effective variable involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Boesch*, 617 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980). Chiang does not explicitly disclose the coating is dirt repellant.

WO378 teaches a security paper with a dirt repellent protective layer (Abstract). Chiang and WO378 are both directed to security paper. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have employed the dirt repellent protective layer, as taught in WO378, on the paper substrate of Chiang to extend the life and usability of the security paper.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103(a)

4. Claim 26 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chiang et al. (U.S. 5,380,695) in view of WO 2004/072378 (WO378) further in view of Manser et al. (U.S. 5,525,400).

Chiang and WO378 are relied upon for instant claim 18 as above. Chiang does not disclose the paper being unsized. Manser teaches an ID card (column 1, lines 5-10) where the paper is sized or unsized and may contain various fibers (column 3, lines 8-10) where the adhesive portion comprises acrylates or methacrylates (column 4, lines 5-19). Chiang and Manser are both directed to ID cards having acrylate adhesive material. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art for the paper of Chiang to be unsized so the security paper can be used in a variety of shaped ID cards for more versatility and utility.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103(a)

5. Claim 24 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chiang et al. (U.S. 5,380,695) in view of WO 2004/072378 (WO378) further in view of Takeuchi et al. (U.S. 4,856,857).

Chiang and WO378 are relied upon for instant claim 18 as above. Chiang does not disclose the paper having cotton fibers. Takeuchi teaches an ID card having an adhesive layer comprising polymethacrylic material (column 14, lines 9-24) having a paper support comprising cotton fiber (column 19, lines 11-35). Chiang and Takeuchi are

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both directed to ID cards having acrylate adhesive layers. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include cotton fiber in the substrate of Chiang to improve the texture of the ID card.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103(a)

6. Claim 29-34 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaule (U.S. 5,817,205) in view of Chiang et al. (U.S. 5,380,695).

Kaule teaches making a security paper (column 3, lines 44-45 and column 6, lines 13-36) by applying a coat to the paper surface (column 5, lines 1-3) along with lacquers and printed protective layers (column 5, lines 59-65). Kaule teaches the paper comprising paper fibers (column 7, line 67) where the surface is suitable for producing isolated coated areas (column 8, lines 29-31). The reference discloses a paper machine cutting the paper to a desired size (column 9, lines 11-24). The coating of Kaule lacks both polyurethane and a filler substance. Although Kaule does not explicitly disclose a dirt repellant surface, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the coating of Kaule repels dirt because the coating is provided with lacquers and printed protective layers (column 5, lines 59-65) which helps keep the security paper free from dirt. Kaule does not specifically disclose the coating layer comprising acrylates. Chiang discloses an ID card security paper having a security pattern (column 4, lines 15-35) with a paper support (column 4, lines 45-62) having a polymeric security layer comprising acrylate material (column 5, lines 5-15 and column 6, lines 7-15) which protects the paper layer. Kaule and Chiang are analogous art because they are from the

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same field of security documents. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include acrylates in the security document of Kaule because the acrylate material improves the binding properties and durability of the coating layer.

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Huang (U.S. 5,073,404) teaches a dirt repellant coating (abstract) with an acrylate based adhesive (column 8, lines 10-16).

Response to Arguments

8. Arguments made in regards to rejection made under 35 USC 102(b) and 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chiang et al. (U.S. 5,380,695) are moot based on grounds of new rejection. Applicant argues the acrylate material of Chiang includes fillers in the security layer according to column 7, lines 38-45. Applicant points to one embodiment of Chiang which teaches the layer "can include various additives...if desired, inorganic filler" can be included. It is not necessary for the invention to use this material since Chiang teaches that the filler is capable of being included, if desired.

Arguments made in regards to rejection made under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chiang et al. (U.S. 5,380,695) in view of Manser et al. (U.S. 5,525,400) are moot based on grounds of new rejection.

Arguments made in regards to rejection made under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chiang et al. (U.S. 5,380,695) in view of Takeuchi et al. (U.S. 4,856,857) are moot based on grounds of new rejection.

Arguments made in regards to rejection made under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaule (U.S. 5,817,205) in view of Chiang et al. (U.S. 5,380,695) have been considered but are unpersuasive. Applicant argues Kaule does not describe protective coating that includes an acrylate system as the sole binder and lacking a filler substance. Examiner maintains that neither Kaule nor Chiang teaches a filler substance in the protective layer. Chiang teaches an adhesive system having an acrylate system as the sole binder (column 6, lines 7-15).

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lawrence Ferguson whose telephone number is 571-272-1522. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 9:00 AM – 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena Dye, can be reached on 571-272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Lawrence Ferguson
Patent Examiner
AU 1774



RENA DYE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

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7/11/05